

BRIDES AT THE FAIR

Where and How Columbian
Honeymooning is Done

IN THE GREAT WHITE CITY

Experts on the Subject Say That There
Never Was a Place as Favorable
for Wedding Couples.

It is easy to pick out the bridal couples at the fair. Those who have made a study of the crowds swarming through Chicago daily say that there are three indisputable ways of distinguishing the honeymoon couples from all others. And these are the three ways: First, they are the only people who never seem weary of sight-seeing. They have a happy, peaceful expression of contentment, just as if they thought that the whole display had been made expressly for them and would last forever, just this way.

Secondly, the bridal couples are the only ones who do not seem to notice the exorbitant prices which are being charged for things. The happy groom has made up his mind that he is going to spend his money and he spends it like a little man, without stopping to inquire whether a cup of coffee at thirty-five cents has not "gone up," or whether soda water isn't dear at a quarter. In the matter of fair souvenirs he is perfectly reckless. He buys whatever pleases "her," and does not stop to count the cost until the salesgirl has first reckoned it up for him. He buys Isabella cuff buttons for "her" mother, Siamese slippers for his trianeta for all the children at home and necklaces with a rockless abandon, and display of greenbacks, even only in the case of one-month old bridegrooms.

Thirdly, and this test is the most complete of all, the bridal couples have a way of picking out the pretty and secluded spots on the fair grounds with a celerity truly remarkable. And, especially so, when one considers that they have come to Chicago as strangers, and had no more previous knowledge of the secluded and picturesque nooks than any of the others who have come to the fair. It is as if instinct guided them to these pleasure places in the great fair grounds, and told them to sit down and take in the whole world and make plans for the future.

And these are the ways by which you pick out the bridal couples who are making a wedding tour to the world's fair. And you pick them unerringly every time.

The prettiest place in the five miles of drives and walks in the fair grounds is the lagoon. Although this circles in and out and through all the busiest parts of the fair, it is very calm and lovely all the time. It goes past Machinery hall, past the Mining building, past the Electricity building and past all of the great noisy structures at the



THE GONDOLIER SPOT.

fair. Yet it maintains its individuality, so to speak, through it all, and is serene and quiet in the midst of all the busy life.

The gondoliers from Venice are the most picturesque of all the creatures, animal and human, to be seen on the lagoon. And as there are only seventeen of these big gondoliers there is great rivalry for their services, for every one wants to have the pleasure of being gondolied across the lagoon by them. It is usually the bridal couples who have this pleasure, because they are willing to wait until the gondoliers are at liberty to take them, and they are so generous in the matter of tips that they are favored passengers.

The handsomest gondolier of them all is a big Venetian named Domenico Moretti. He dresses in a costume of the fourteenth century, and was specially sent here by the Venetian officials because he has won more prizes at Venice than all the other boatmen put together, and is consequently the best representative of the famous Venetian gondoliers.

Some of the gondoliers have fine voices, and in the evening when they row their "faro" over the lake they sing their Venetian melodies to a slow, lazy meter that is very delightful to hear. One moonlight evening—it was the very last moonlight evening we had—all seventeen of the Venetian gondoliers were on the lagoon, and each had, if one can judge from appearance, a bridal couple in his gondola. And as they glided along they sang in unison a lovely Swiss melody. Just what the words were in Swiss no one seemed to know. But this is what they sounded like in English:

Oh, that to the gay gondolier!
Oh, that to the gay gondolier!
Oh, that to the gay gondolier!
Oh, that to the gay gondolier!

The time was something like the "My Sweetheart," the Man in the Moon. But the line:

"I am going to marry him soon!"
Was repeated and changed to a rollicking measure in the next line.

The big cabin on the "Wooded Island" (another favorite spot with honeymooners. They wander into it and around it and seem to be thinking how perfectly ideal it would be to live there all alone in rustic simplicity with the city within such easy reach.

It is not honeymooners alone who find this wooded island an attractive place at the fair, but old settlers, too, and people who have since grown rich in western mines and lands. The cabin has very quaint little structures, perhaps seventy-five feet long by twenty-five feet wide, and it is fashioned after the log cabins in which Nancy Hanks, the mother of Abraham Lincoln, was born. It is finished off in true backwoods style and there is never an hour in the day when it is not visited by

people who have lived in such a cabin at some time in their lives.

It is said that the cabin, beside being a fine-simile of the one in which the mother of the martyr president lived, is very like the one in which Mrs. Silver King Mackay lived when among the Rockies, while her husband was building the Southern Pacific railroad.



DOMENICO MORETTI.

But to the bridal couples! They are so numerous on the wooded island that one stops counting them and numbers them as part of the scenery of the island along with the black swans and the white geese. They seem to prefer the simplicity to the gilded elegance of the Administration building or the gold and white of the public reception rooms.

The Midway Plaisance is another charming place at the fair. It is as quaint and as different from the rest of the exposition as though it were no part of it. There are thirteen villages upon it, and each village is as complete as if it had been brought directly from the place which it represents without even undergoing a change of scene. All along the Midway Plaisance bridal couples are seen wandering through the day and as late into the night as the guard will permit. And early the next morning they are at it again, still sight-seeing and still enjoying.

And just here comes in the funny part of some of the bride-and-groom episodes. The Midway Plaisance is full of very interesting and very attentive women who inhabit the villages, and sometimes the young bridegrooms are attracted by their charms more than is agreeable to the feelings of the brides.

In the Turkish village there is a girl who was sent here because she was the fairest girl in Bethlehem, the sacred city of Palestine. Her name is Esther, and she is known as "the daughter of Hamill." Esther is as lovely as the day and she dresses in the picturesque costume worn by the natives of Judea. Her hair is piled high on the top of her head, and there it is covered by a great head-dress of snow-white linen that falls to her feet. It is just such a head-dress as Mrs. George Gould wore in one of Mr. Dilly's plays when she was Miss Edith Kingston and was part and parcel of Dilly's stock company. And it is said that it was in this costume that the young multi-millionaire saw her and was charmed by her beauty.

Esther, the daughter of Hamill, is an actress also, and she is to appear in the Turkish theater and play every day all summer. When the bridal couples wander through the Midway Plaisance, and when the young bridegrooms see Esther in their visit to the Turkish village, they are charmed past all concealment and rave over the rich olive in her cheeks and the soft, wondering look in her eyes.

The brides do not always relish this admiration, and it is noticed by everyone that the visit to the Turkish village is made shorter than to the others.

"It is not that I object to having my husband look at a beautiful woman," said one of the young brides to a friend, as she hurried her month-old groom along. "If it were only a civilized woman that he is admiring. But to stand and stare like that at a heathen and, perhaps, a sun worshiper, too, fairly makes my blood run cold. Come away, all of you, as quickly as you can."

The fair grounds are full of honeymoon spots. It is just the place for a honeymoon. It is quite different from the Centennial. For there it was more like a mere exhibition. But here it is as if one were enjoying real life in distant and ideal lands. By all means, if you are not married and expect to be married some day, shorten up the time if you can, and come to the fair on a tour. Or, if you are celebrating a wedding anniversary and want to bring the past back very vividly, and grow young again with the brides and grooms, come by all means. You can talk about it forever afterwards. And, as a young bride exuberantly expressed it:

"We feel as if we had been all around the world on our wedding tour, and now we are ready to go home and live on the memory of our journey. We visited the crown jewels in the tower of London; we drank Russian tea in a Russian tea house; we rode in a Japanese jinrickshaw; took a Chinese dinner, sailed across the lake to the California building and then took the intramural railway home. And we did it all in three days and saw a thousand sights besides. Chicago is now the liveliest place for wedding tourists."

Well said.

Flattery, when delicately administered, cannot fail to be acceptable. "You forget that I am an old woman," said a lady in response to an admiring remark from one of the old school. "Ma'am," was the reply. "When my eyes are dazzled by a diamond it never occurs to me to ask a mineralogist for its history." Horace Walpole is dining with the duchess of Queensborough on her eightieth birthday, said, in proposing her health: "May you live, your grace, until you begin to grow ugly!" Her ladyship's tongue was as ready as his own. She replied: "I thank you, Mr. Walpole. May you long continue your taste for antiquities."—*Woman's Magazine.*

IMMENSE GENUINE REDUCTIONS

FOR THE ENTIRE WEEK.

We have decided to offer for this week an immense varied and attractive array of seasonable goods at genuine and thorough reductions and solicit a general inspection of the offerings by all.

Colored Dress Goods

An immense and varied range of Colored Dress Goods, worth up to 50c, will be included in one stupendous lot and offered for the week at

29c Yard

All shades, designs and materials.

Silks. Silks. Silks.

Plain and printed Chinas in an endless variety of shades and designs and all perfect cloth, worth 50c per yard, and will be arranged in two distinct lots at

29

AND

39c Yard

It will give us pleasure to show these offerings to all.

—IN THE—
Linen Department

This week's display will contain, among others, one lot of 25 dozen beautiful Satin Damask Towels, with knotted fringe and large size, reduced from 25c, at

14c Each

One case of 100 Marseilles Bed Spreads, reduced from \$1.25 and \$1.50; all perfect goods; to be offered in two lots at

75c

AND

\$1.00.

One case of 6-4 and 7-4 Marseilles Bed Spreads, very nice styles, will be reduced for the week from 75c to

55c

IN WHITE GOODS

A large assortment of patterns of Lace Nainsooks, in stripes and checks, reduced in price for the week from 12½c to

8c Yard

In the Embroidery and Lace department we continue the extensive and very telling reductions and will, this week, reduce the price on 8,500 yards of fine embroidery from 10c to 6½c per yard.

We expect it will be exceedingly lively in this department, but all will be well served.

Near by is the Children's Lace Cap department, where will be reduced 50 Lace Caps (slightly soiled,) to

IOC

SHOES

Among our many elegant lines of shoes for Ladies we have one line of wine color Oxfords, Philadelphia toe, which we will reduce from \$3.00 to

\$2.00 a Pair

For one week. We have of these 100 pairs.

LINE TWO consists of 300 pairs of Ladies' fine Patent Tip Oxford Tie Shoes, of excellent value at \$2.50, reduced for the week to

\$1.50 a Pair

These are handsome shoes and fit well.

TWO REDUCTIONS IN

CURTAINS

LOT ONE consists of 50 pairs choice pattern Chenille Curtains, in the newest shades, will be marked down from \$6.00 to

\$4.48 Pair

LOT TWO is of 100 pairs white and ecru Lace Curtains, finely finished, the most superb patterns, changed in price from \$7.50 to

\$4.48 Pair

These are excellent bargains.

50 DOZEN of Ladies' Mix Ribbed Vests, low neck, short sleeves, marked down from 20c to

IOC

100 DOZEN Ladies' excellent Fast Black Hose, that have been selling at 39c, will this week be reduced to

29c Pair

JUST IN—75 dozen Gents' flowing end Teck Silk Scarfs, worth 50c, will for the week be reduced to

25c Each

Parasols. Parasols.

One lot of 100 excellent design and superior made Parasols will be placed on sale for the week at

\$2.50 Each

Make early selections.

We were never so busy in our Millinery department as now, and we are making every effort to procure the very most desirable things in this line to be had. A visit to this department will be well repaid.

ALL REDUCTIONS GENUINE
AND GUARANTEED.

Trankla, Jamieson & Co.